

The story of the Three Hunters: The Lion, the Wolf, and the Fox

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Chapter 1: The Lesson of Experience in the Animal Kingdom

A Predatory Alliance: The Lion, the Wolf, and the Fox

Şāhib Qalyūbī narrates an incident that reveals how even animals benefit from experience. Once, a lion, a wolf, and a fox set out together on a hunting expedition. Their joint effort bore fruit, and they succeeded in capturing three animals: a donkey, a deer, and a hare.

An Unwise Division: The Wolf's Misjudgement

The lion addressed the wolf and said that he should divide the catch among them.

Lion:

“Divide these among us.”

The wolf responded confidently.

Wolf:

“The division is clear. The donkey is for you, the hare for travel provisions, and the deer is mine.”

Upon hearing this, the lion struck the wolf on the head with his paw.

A Cautious Turn: The Fox's Division

Turning to the fox, the lion gave the same instruction.

Lion:

“Now you divide them among us.”

The fox responded with careful precision.

Fox:

“The donkey is for the king's breakfast, the hare for his evening meal, and the deer is to be consumed between the two.”

Recognition Through Observation:

The lion, evidently pleased with this answer, questioned the fox about the origin of such wise judgement.

Lion:

“May Allah destroy you! Who taught you this division?”

Fox:

“I learned it from the blow I just witnessed.”

With that, the fox swiftly turned away and fled.